

## Update From the Chief, MHSA Workforce Education and Training

This last three months has been very rich in activity, and we are pleased to provide this update in our journey toward developing a comprehensive Workforce Education and Training Five-Year Plan.

1. **Five-Year Plan.** The first draft outline of the Five-Year Plan was unveiled for comment at the April 25, 26 General Stakeholders Meetings held in Orange and Sacramento. The event participants broke into discussion groups and provided many useful recommendations for assisting county mental health programs with their workforce needs in implementing their Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plans. With these recommendations and input we will be developing a second draft of the Five-Year Plan for consideration at the next scheduled General Stakeholder's meetings.
2. **Needs Assessment.** We have developed a standard template to depict each county's MHSA workforce needs in implementing their CSS Plans. We are now in the process of reviewing the data and information provided in the CSS Plans, and will aggregate, summarize and analyze workforce needs to assist in formulating short-term strategies to assist counties with their education and training needs. We are also posting a Request for Quotation on the DMH web page in order to engage the services of a consultant to assist us with the development of a comprehensive needs assessment to assist in long-term strategies for our Five-Year Plan.
3. **Special Topic Workgroups.** This summer we will be initiating special topic workgroups to develop both short- and long-term education and training options for inclusion in the Five-Year Plan. We have approached the leadership from all of the stakeholder groups for assistance in recruiting individuals to participate who have interest and expertise in these areas. We are also soliciting applications from DMH's expert pool in order to ensure consumer and family member participation. Any workgroup products will be shared for public input through the General Stakeholder process, and written input to [mhsa@dmh.ca.gov](mailto:mhsa@dmh.ca.gov) is always welcome.
4. **DMH Education and Training Staff.** Finally, we are happy to announce the filling of the DMH staff positions that comprise the MHSA Workforce Education and Training Unit. These individuals are:
  - Inna Tysoe, Staff Mental Health Specialist
  - Wendy Desormeaux, Associate Mental Health Specialist
  - Jennifer Ramel, Office Technician